THE EXAMINER.

No. 1. *SUNDAY, JANUARY 3*, 1808.

The world in fact are so accustomed to Newspapers, that they would consider their suppression as an eclipse. It would produce a sort of public mourning. The Republic of Letters would then be deprived of a number of pieces, which are the kernel or cream of a Newspaper, and which enable us to read it with advantage.

BAYLE. Dissertation sur les Libelles Diffamatoires; Dict. Hist. et Crit. p. 1307. Edit. Rotterdam, 1697.

THE POLITICAL EXAMINER.

Party is the madness of many for the gain of a few.

SWIFT.—Detached Sentences.

No. 1.

ON THE SEPARATION OF RUSSIA FROM THE BRITISH INTEREST.

THE very credulity of the English arises from their virtues. They mistake novelty for merit, professions for deeds, and mere cunning for disinterestedness; they leap over little obstacles and little objections to grasp at what they imagine a noble character, and when they discover it to be a mere phantom, are ready to cross themselves, like Papists, at the mistake. Yesterday, the Emperor ALEXANDER was a charming prince, a very resolute, thinking, and wise prince, but above all, a most magnanimous prince: it is in the nature of things, that all our allies should be magnanimous. To-day, nobody can be sufficiently astonished at the weakness and folly of this great man; one politician hopes he will return to a sense of his duty and true interest; another begins to think that we owe his loss to the present Ministry; and a third wonders how he could be deluded from us when the Ministers treated him so well. Thus it is, that for want of a little philosophy, mankind are always pursuing a thousand conjectures. They forget, that the same passions and petty follies influence powerful states and feeble individuals, and in spite of everlasting lessons, they will not be persuaded of that unfortunate but incontrovertible truth, that there is no real disinterestedness in any government relatively considered. If they knew a little more of human nature they would know a little more of sovereigns, who are mere men walking, like the Arabian traveller, in a kind of sunny mist, that renders the appearance gigantic. FREDERICK of Prussia owed his most violent fits of royal passion to indigestion; his courtiers and his physician hardly dared to approach him during his disorder, however short its continuance was likely to be; and if his Generals had known the true origin of some of his harshest commands, the poor peasants, who humbly asked why their villages were destroyed, might have been answered, "His Majesty's ragout disagreed with him yesterday." And yet after this, we are astonished how ALEXANDER could have forsaken us! We forget, that weakness of mind is a thousand times more pernicious in a sovereign than weakness of body, that it has no intervals in which sound reason acts for itself, and that in an absolute monarch, paradoxical as it may appear, it acquires a kind of monstrous strength which wisdom in vain opposes. In short, the Emperor of RUSSIA is a very weak man, and we should have thought so always, had he not been our ally. The Empress CATHARINE, whom all the world knows to have been disappointed in her family, looked on him in his younger days as a prince of mere good nature, and it was for this reason she wished him to have ruled in preference to her son PAUL, whom she looked upon as a savage: she had encircled her grandson with men of abilities, and she thought it better that men of abilities should rule a good natured monarch, than that a mere barbarian should rule them. NAPOLEON however has found his way into the Russian councils, and wherever his influence gains admission, he shews how well he can rival the Satan of MILTON, and "make the worse appear the better reason." What has been the political life of the Emperor of RUSSIA? He was the ally of England because he thought her alliance was to his interest; he meets the French in battle, is beaten, drinks a bottle of wine with that '*upstart*' and '*usurper*' his enemy, and separates from his English ally because he thinks the French one more to his interest. If our wonderers could be informed by NAPOLEON of the whole secret of the conferences at Tilsit and of all the astonishing influence which turned the head of ALEXANDER, he would give them the precise answer of the celebrated LEONORA GALLIGAI, when she confessed to her judges the magic with which she was supposed to have influenced MARY DE MEDICIS: "My magic," said she, "was the exercise of that power, which strong minds always possess over weak ones."

The Declaration of our Ministry, in reply to that of the RUSSIAN Emperor, is not only written with classical spirit, but upon the whole is a very argumentative refutation of the pretexts of ALEXANDER. One cannot but lament at the same time, that it should have condescended to use that old political talk about disinterestedness, which it renders so ridiculous in the RUSSIAN Emperor. There never was "a war undertaken by Great Britain solely for the purpose of maintaining

Russian interests against the influence of France." To maintain Russia against France is to weaken or at least to obstruct the power of the latter, and this obstruction is evidently to the interest of England. I am afraid also, that no argument, upon the principles of right and wrong, can reconcile the attack upon Copenhagen to sound reason. I would not assault the authors of that enterprise with all the noisy reproach, which has been rung in their ears: it becomes a thinking person to do justice to the motives of a set of men, that is, to the more active part of the Ministry, who hold a laborious responsibility for their country, and who carry into their councils the respectability of private worth. But these Ministers themselves insist not on the actual dereliction of the Danes, but on its future probability; nay, they do not so much insist upon this even, as upon the probable compulsion by which the French would have driven Denmark into hostilities against us. It must be confessed, that it is a hard thing to punish an innocent man now, lest he should be guilty hereafter; and it is certainly still harder to punish him, lest he should hereafter be compelled into error. The plea of necessity cannot be admitted without an acknowledgment, neither honourable nor true, of essential weakness in our own country; and those politicians, who so gaily set moral principles aside to gain a favourite end, forget that common honesty and common sense are the true grounds of all policy whatsoever. Shall we address the Deity and say, "Thou hast given us reason to discern right from wrong and to enable us to do justice to every body, but we beg leave to set this divine gift aside just now for a certain small end."

In the mean time, I am ready to do justice to the manly spirit with which the Ministers have dissipated the pretensions of Russia. That sudden fit of protection, which inspired the Emperor ALEXANDER to draw his sword for Prussia, and which terminated, like all other fits, in mere impotence, is certainly more likely to have originated in the EMPEROR'S own efforts of interest than in his ardour for this country; and if it did not, the Protector of the North and the Guarantee of the Germanic Constitution did very little honour to his ancient *magnanimity*. His IMPERIAL MAJESTY would persuade us, that a man does not defend his neighbour's house from fire for reasons of neighbourhood, of natural pity, and of strong self-interest; but because he has been requested by a certain house at a distance, which is connected with his neighbour by family and by trade. CATHARINE would have used more specious logic than this.

There are in fact one or two proceedings on the part of Russia, which would almost have justified Great Britain in declaring war against the Emperor ALEXANDER. His transfer to France of the Ionian Republic, of which, in the usual mock-heroic style, he had called himself the solemn Protector, was a meanness that might have been regarded with mere contempt; but his concealment of the Tilsit articles of peace, and his utter abandonment of Prussia at a time when she was ground into the dust, exhibited all that want of candour, firmness, and integrity, which is a hundred times more dangerous in a friend than in an enemy. The weakness however of a shrub makes it bend to one wind as well as another: ALEXANDER may turn to us again when he is no longer propped up by French interest, but let us beware of leaning upon him as a fast friend. The man who has betrayed one friend, will betray fifty.

At any rate, let us cease to wonder at the changes and the follies which a mind naturally weak can exhibit. It is the part of weakness to wonder, not to be wondered at: and I dare say, when the Emperor considers his quarrel with England, his hugs with France, his legionary ribbon, and his new acquaintance, the immaculate M. CAULINCOURT, he does not know what to think of his own magnanimity. If we must wonder at the Emperor of RUSSIA, in the name of common sense, let us wonder at him just as we wonder *what it is o'clock*, or *whether it will rain*, or at any other wonderful thing not at all wonderful.

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FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

PARIS, DEC. 15.—Letters from the First Corps of Observation of the Gironde, under the command of General Junot, mention that the Prince Regent of Portugal, as soon as he learnt the arrival of the French troops at Abrantes, adopted the resolution of retiring to the Brazils. He sailed, in fact, on the 29th of November. General Junot entered Lisbon on the 30th. He was very favourably received by the inhabitants. Such was the confidence in the French, that the shops were not shut, nor was business interrupted for an instant.

HAVRE, DEC. 11.—The day before yesterday an American vessel, with a rich cargo of colonial produce, came in and anchored in our roads. The Maritime Prefect immediately sent on board her an officer of the principal office, and an interpreter. The officer put this question to the Captain:—"Have you not touched at England since you quitted the United States?" "Yes," said the Captain, "I was forcibly carried into Plymouth by an English frigate." Upon this declaration, which was in direct contradiction to the decree respecting the Continental blockade, the vessel was prohibited from entering, and an order to withdraw was intimated to her.

GERMANY.

VIENNA, DEC. 2.—Our army is now on the most formidable footing. It has been increased by several Prussian deserters, who have enlisted in our regiments, so that our military force is said to amount at present to 400,000 effective men.

SPAIN.

MADRID, Nov. 26.—Don St. Jago Liniers has sent to his Excellency the Prince Generalissimo and Grand Admiral the official account of the events which took place at Buenos Ayres in the course of last July. His Majesty, as a reward for the extraordinary proofs of loyalty given by that city, as well as for the services rendered by Don St. Jago Liniers, and by several officers, has declared that the city of Buenos Ayres is to henceforth have the title of Excellence, and that its Magistrates are to be called Seigniors; that Don St. Jago Liniers is to receive the rank of Field-Marshal, and is appointed Viceroy; and all the officers who served under him are to be promoted, and that the Viceroy is to name the rewards which are to be bestowed on those who have distinguished themselves.

FROM THE AMERICAN PAPERS.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 27.—Mr. Blount, from a Committee of the House of Representatives on a part of the President's Message, reported this day on the subject of the attack on the Chesapeake. The report commences with an expression of sensibility at this outrage; states the receipt of information relative thereto from the State and Navy Departments; presents a general view of the circumstances, observing, that it might be said to have been incontestibly proved, that William Ware, John Strachan, and Dan. Martin (three of the four persons taken out of the Chesapeake) are citizens of the United States; but the Committee add, that they conceive it unnecessary for them, or the House, to go into any inquiry on that part of the subject, as, in their opinion, whether the men taken from the Chesapeake were or were not citizens of the United States, and whether the Chesapeake was or was not within the acknowledged limits of the United States at the time they were taken, the character of the act of taking them remains the same. From the foregoing facts, it appears to your Committee that the outrage committed on the frigate Chesapeake has been stamped with circumstances of indignity and insult, of which there is scarcely to be found a parallel in the history of civilized nations, and requires only the sanction of the Government under colour of whose authority it was perpetrated, to make it just cause of, if not an irresistible call for, instant and severe retaliation. Whether it will receive that sanction, or be disavowed and declared an unauthorized act of a subordinate officer, remains to be determined by the answer which shall be given to the demand of explanation; that answer, now daily expected, will either sink the detestable act into piracy, or expand it to the magnitude of premeditated hostility against the sovereignty and independence of this nation; and until its true character shall be fixed and known, your Committee deem it expedient to decline expressing any opinion as to the measures proper to be adopted in retaliation to it." But the Committee add, "as other acts of aggression have been committed within our ports and waters, such as those mentioned in the President's Message, the Committee are of opinion, that it is expedient to provide more effectually for the protection of our ports and harbours; but not being prepared to report specifically on that subject, they ask further indulgence of the House; and submit the following Resolutions;—

"Resolved, That the attack of the British ship of war Leopard in the United States frigate Chesapeake, was a flagrant violation of the jurisdiction of the United States; and that the continuance of the British squadron (of which the Leopard was one) in their waters, after being notified by the Proclamation of the President of the United States, ordering them to depart the same, was a farther violation thereof."

Nov. 18.—Yesterday the Hon. Mr. Lyon stated, in the House of Representatives, that he wished the galleries cleared and the doors closed, bolted, and barred, as he had some highly important matters to communicate. The House having gratified his wishes, he observed, that Mr. Erskine, the British Minister, had recently transferred stock, possessed by his father, to a large amount in the American Funds, and in consequence proposed the following resolution:—"That provision ought to be made by law, forbidding all transfers of right of action, and all monies, and other property, either real or personal, to or by any subject of the Crown of Great Britain; and also forbidding any citizen or resident of the United States paying any debt or demand to any such subject."—Not a single member supported the resolution, but all censured its imprudence. The general opinion was, that if persisted in by the mover, the doors should be instantly opened, and the resolutions rejected in public. Mr. Lyon then withdrew the resolution, and the galleries were opened, under the understanding that all secrecy was at an end.

Nov. 24.—Yesterday Mr. Adams, from a Committee appointed on a part of the President's Message, reported to the Senate a Bill for the preservation of peace and maintenance of the authority of the United States in the ports, harbours, and waters under their jurisdiction, which received a first reading. The Bill is very long, and contains numerous important details. The outlines are as follow:—

It authorises the President to permit or interdict, at his discretion, the entrance of our harbours to all armed vessels belonging to a foreign power, and by force to repel and move them from the same, except in certain specified cases, in which cases the said vessels are to conform to rules prescribed by the Executive.

It further, in consequence of the late conduct of the British, prohibits the entrance of any British armed vessel into the harbours or waters of the United States, except when driven in by stress of weather, or when charged with dispatches: provided that whenever reparation shall be made, to the satisfaction of the President, for the outrages committed upon the national sovereignty, it shall be lawful for the President to remove the interdiction.

On such vessel refusing to depart, she shall be deemed to have made a hostile invasion of the territory of the United States, and shall be proceeded against as an enemy, and may be seized, and brought in and forfeited, and shall accrue wholly to the captors.

All pacific intercourse with such vessel is forbidden.

The President is authorized to use the land forces and militia to seize such vessel.

He is also empowered to refuse admission to any vessel belonging to the subjects of the nation whose armed vessel shall so remain in the harbours of the United States.

It empowers any person or persons to burn, sink, or destroy any such vessel, for which a bounty of ——— dollars is offered on each gun of the said vessel.

It authorizes the President to carry this act into effect, to fit out all the armed vessels of the United States.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

TUESDAY, NOV. 10.

Debate on the Bill making further Appropriation for the Support of the Navy.

Mr. RANDOLPH said, he wished to be clearly understood as to the course which he thought it incumbent on the Executive to have pursued, and consequently to what extent the course which had been pursued met his approbation. He thought Congress ought to have been immediately convened on the capture of the Chesapeake, and our Ministers at London instantly recalled, after having made an explicit and peremptory demand of redress, and that redress too by a British Envoy dispatched to the United States for the especial purpose. Congress being convened, the nation should have been put in a posture of defence, waiting a reasonable time to receive redress by an Envoy. That being refused, instant retaliation should have been taken on the offending party. Mr. R. would have invaded Canada and Nova Scotia, and made a descent on Jamaica. He would have seized on Canada and Nova Scotia, not with a view to their incorporation into our system of government, but as pledges to be retained against a future pacification, until we had obtained ample redress for our wrongs. Whilst he held these sentiments, he entirely concurred with the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. Smilie), that war was a great evil, never to be resorted to without a solemn demand of reparation from the offender, and giving him a fair opportunity to make due atonement for the injury, or insult, which he had offered: but there was a mode of demanding, as well as of receiving redress. He said that he should for ever protest, wherever it could be possibly avoided, and here it might have been avoided, against expenditure of public money without the previous sanction of law. But condemning an expence, and refusing to appropriate money to discharge it, were different things. A man, for instance, might highly disapprove his wife's running up a large account with a merchant, without his knowledge or consent, which his honour would nevertheless compel him to pay. Incurring a debt was one thing, and discharging it another. Mr. R. believed it was within the knowledge of many members of that house, that during the late war between England and France, which was terminated by the peace of Amiens, the *extraordinary* expences, that is, the expences incurred without the knowledge and concurrence of Parliament, such expences as this bill provides for, exceeded the *ordinary*, or authorised expences, during a single year of that war, although these last amounted to near 20,000,000l. sterling! Ought we not then (said he) to set our faces against the introduction of a principle which must certainly lead to consequences so ruinous? Would any man put the additional security which we derive from a few military stores, in competition with a violation of the Constitution, in a point too involving the dearest privileges of that House? Whilst he held this language, he was not insensible to [illegible] danger, nor unwilling to make efficient [illegible]. Let us not (he said) deceive [illegible] idea that we are to have a war of [illegible] crifices they would be called upon [illegible] prepared to meet them. He [illegible] ter into it, if war we must have, with a full conviction of its justice and necessity, and with hearts resolutely bent to endure all its privations, and abide by all its hardships. He had on a former occasion said, that if Great Britain put forth her strength, we should feel it; she had put forth her strength, and we had felt it—you feel it now in every fibre of your heart. It could not be expected that he should answer insinuations of a British party in that House, coming too from such persons. Neither could it be expected that he should sink into that vile and supple thing, an humble follower—a pliant tool of a majority, and tacitly disavow the principles for which he contended two years ago. He had then, as far as in him lay, endeavoured to avert the situation of affairs which now exists, and under the same circumstances he should do so again. It had been said, that it was idle to retrospect on the causes which led to that situation, and he agreed that it was, so far as related to the foreign power, but not as it related to the conduct of our Government. It was totally immaterial what were the previous points in dispute between us and Great Britain. Her conduct had put it out of our power to look back upon them, to examine into them, and had consequently precluded all deliberation. We had received a blow, and it was out of the question to enter into the merits of the dispute which had produced it. To Great Britain the door of discussion was shut, was barred, and she must knock with the light tap of solicitation before it could be opened to her. But let not gentlemen calculate upon throwing the difficulties into which the country was brought, upon those who had opposed the measures of imbecility and irritation which led to them. He could not consent to take upon himself any part of the credit which the Non-importation Law conferred upon its supporters, however anxious they might be to share it with him. If the expence of convening Congress were to be made a pretext for acting without its authority, we might as well give the Executive a power of attorney at once to legislate for us. He scouted such a idea. It would have been better to have convened Congress at the expence of half a million, than that a single cent should have been drawn out of the treasury without a previous appropriation by law.

When the question was taken by yeas and nays on the passage of the Bill—Yeas, 124—Nays, Messrs. Hoge, D. R. Williams.

NOV. 27.—Mr. J. CLAY presented a Memorial from sundry inhabitants and traders of the City of Philadelphia, praying that the act prohibiting the importation of certain goods, wares, and merchandize, passed the 18th of April, 1806, may be repealed. Mr. Clay moved, that the Memorial be referred to the Committee of Commerce and Manufactures.

Mr. ROWAN hoped the Petition would not be referred to any Committee. He thought it would be beneath the dignity of the House to give it any consideration. Had he been in Congress at the time the law passed, he would have voted against it; but as it had passed, and as we had received a fresh insult from Great Britain in the attack of the Chesapeake, he would not vote for its repeal.

After a long debate, the question was then taken for referring the Petition to a Committee of the whole

House, and it was lost.—Ayes 50—Nays 80.—The Petition was ordered to lie on the table.

NEW-YORK, DEC. 3.—The *Philadelphia True American* of Monday, contained the following article—"We are informed, by a Gentleman, upon whose correctness and veracity we can implicitly rely, that Mr. Jefferson has lately observed, that ample reparation would be made by the British Government for the affair of the Chesapeake; and that the other points of difference would proceed in a train of amicable adjustment: further, that Mr. Jefferson now says, that war with Great Britain need not be apprehended."

STATE PAPERS.

IMPERIAL DECREE.

REJOINDER TO HIS BRITANNIC MAJESTY'S ORDER IN COUNCIL, OF THE 11TH OF NOVEMBER, 1807.

At our Royal Palace, at Milan, Dec. 17, 1807.

Napoleon, Emperor of the French, King of Italy, and Protector of the Rhenish Confederation:—

Observing the measures adopted by the British Government, on the 11th of November last, by which vessels belonging to neutral, friendly, or even Powers the allies of England, are made liable, not only to be searched by English cruizers, but to be compulsorily detained in England, and to have a tax laid on them of so much per cent. on the cargo, to be regulated by the British Legislature:

Observing that by these acts the British Government DENATIONALIZES ships of every nation in Europe, that it is not competent for any Government to detract from its own independence and rights, all the Sovereigns of Europe having in trust the sovereignties and independence of the flag; that if by an unpardonable weakness, and which, in the eyes of posterity, would be an indelible stain, such a tyranny was allowed to be established into principles and consecrated by usage, the English would avail themselves of it to assert it as a right, as they have availed themselves of the tolerance of Governments to establish the infamous principle, that the flag of a nation does not cover goods, and to give to their right of blockade an arbitrary extension, and which infringes on the Sovereignty of every State; we have decreed, and do decree, as follows:—

I. Every ship, to whatever nation it may belong, that shall have submitted to be searched by an English ship, or to a voyage to England, or that shall have paid any tax whatsoever to the English Government, is thereby, and for that alone, declared to be denationalized, to have forfeited the protection of its King, and to have become English property.

II. Whether the ships thus denationalized by the arbitrary measures of the English Government, enter into our ports, or those of our allies, or whether they fall into the hands of our ships of war, or of our privateers, they are declared to be good and lawful prizes.

III. The British Islands are declared to be in a state of blockade, both by land and sea. Every ship, of whatever nation, or whatsoever the nature of its cargo so may be, that sails from the ports of England, or those of the English Colonies, and of the Countries occupied by English troops, and proceeding to England, or to the English Colonies, or to Countries occupied by English troops, is good and lawful prize, as contrary to the present Decree; and may be captured by our ships of war or our privateers, and adjudged to the captor.

IV. These measures, which are resorted to only in just retaliation of the barbarous system adopted by England, which assimilates its legislation to that of Algiers, shall cease to have any effect with respect to all Nations who shall have the firmness to compel the English Government to respect their flag. They shall continue to be rigorously in force as long as that Government does not return to the principle of the Law of Nations, which regulates the relations of civilized States in a state of war. The provisions of the present Decree shall be abrogated and null, in fact, as soon as the English abide again by the principles of the Law of Nations, which are also the principles of justice and of honour.

All our Ministers are charged with the execution of the present Decree, which shall be inserted in the Bulletin of the Laws. (Signed) NAPOLEON.

PORTUGAL.

ADDITIONAL EDICTAL, OR PROCLAMATION, ISSUED BY THE PRINCE REGENT OF PORTUGAL, PREVIOUSLY TO HIS EMBARKATION.

Instructions to which my Royal Decree of the 26th of November, 1807, bears reference.

The Governors whom I was pleased to nominate by my Royal Decree of the present date, to govern these kindoms during my absence, will have the usual oaths administered to them by the Cardinal Patriarch, and will attend with all solicitude, vigilance and activity, in the administration of justice, distributing the same impartiality, and maintaining a rigorous observance of the laws of this kingdom.

They will preserve to the natives all the privileges which had been granted to them by me and my Royal Predecessors.

The plurality of votes will decide on the reports the respective Tribunals may lay before them, regulating themselves according to the laws and customs of the kingdom.

They will direct literary professions, offices of criminal and civil judicature and revenue, according to forms heretofore practised by me.

They will protect the persons and properties of my loyal subjects, selecting for military occupations those who may be deemed worthy thereof.

They will endeavour to preserve to their utmost the tranquillity of this kingdom, to provide for the troops of the Emperor of the French and King of Italy good quarters, and to supply them with every thing they may require, during their stay in this kingdom, averting all and every insult that may be perpetrated, and punishing with rigour any that may occur; maintaining always the good harmony which ought to be displayed to the armies of nations with whom we find ourselves united on the Continent.

Should it by any occurrence happen, that any of the said Governors are absent, a plurality of votes will elect a successor. I trust in your honour and virtue, that my people will not suffer inconveniencies during my absence; and should it be God's will that I should return shortly to my kingdoms, that I may meet every one contented and satisfied, reigning among them that good order and tranquillity which should exist among subjects who have rendered themselves so worthy of my paternal care.

Palace of our Lady Ajuda, on the 20th of Nov. 1807.

THE PRINCE.

TUESDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.

At the Court at Windsor, the 18th day of December, 1807, present, the King's Most Excellent Majesty in Council:—

His Majesty is pleased, by and with the advice of his Privy Council, to order, and it is hereby ordered, that nothing in his Majesty's Order in Council of the 11th of November last shall extend, or be construed to extend, to permit any vessel to import any articles of the produce or manufacture of the enemy's Colonies in the West Indies, direct from such Colonies to any port of this kingdom; and it is further ordered, that all vessels which may arrive in the ports of this kingdom, direct from the Colonies aforesaid, shall, never-

theless, be released, upon proof being made that the charter-party or other agreement for the voyage was entered into before notice of this Order. And the Right Hon. the Lords Commissioners of his Majesty's Treasury, his Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, and the Judges of the High Court of Admiralty and Courts of Vice-Admiralty, are to take the necessary measures herein as to them shall respectively appertain.

W. FAWKENER.

War-Office, December 29, 1807.

The King having approved an arrangement for the conduct of the Barrack Department, by which the superintendance of the duties thereof is vested in three Civil Commissioners, his Majesty is pleased to command, that all Military Rank throughout the Barrack Department should cease from the 25th instant.

BANKRUPTCY ENLARGED.

Joseph Johnson and John Statham, of Twickett's Mills, Northamptonshire, and Thomas Johnson, Hyde-street, Bloomsbury, millers, from Dec. 19, to Feb. 6, at ten, at Guildhall, London.

BANKRUPTS.

George Dixon, Lancaster, glover, to surrender Jan. 2, 12, Feb. 9, at eleven, at Guildhall, London. Attornies, Messrs. Berry and James, Bucklersbury, London.

William Wright, Queenhithe, provision merchant, Jan. 5, 16, Feb. 9, at ten, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. Sweet, Temple.

James Howell, Eglwysilan, Glamorganshire, shopkeeper, Jan. 12, 13, Feb. 9, at eleven, at the Angel Inn, Cardiff, Glamorganshire. Attorney, Mr. Lewis, Cardiff.

Elizabeth Juxon and Charles Juxon, Birmingham, brass-founders, Jan. 15, 16, Feb. 9, at eleven, at the Shakspeare Tavern, Birmingham. Attorney, Mr. Bott, Birmingham.

James Chard, Anchor and Hope-alley, Red Lion-street, St. George's in the East, painter, Jan. 2, at eleven, 9, Feb. 9, at ten, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. Dawne, Henrietta-street, Covent Garden.

William White, Birmingham, tailor, Jan. 16, at one, 18, Feb. 9, at eleven, at the White Hart Inn, Birmingham. Attorney, Mr. Simcox, Birmingham.

William Nicholls, Minchinhampton, Gloucestershire, clothier, Jan. 5, at five, 6, Feb. 9, at eleven, at the George Inn, Stroud, Gloucestershire. Attorney, Mr. Wathen, Gloucestershire.

Samuel May and John Spooner, Great Portland-street, Mary-le-bone, haberdashers, Jan. 2, 16, Feb. 9, at eleven, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. Drake, Old Fish-street, Doctors' Commons.

William Tankard, Bristol, cabinet-maker, Jan. 14, 15, Feb. 9, at eleven, at the Runner Tavern, Bristol. Attorney, Mr. Vowles, Bristol.

DIVIDENDS.

Jan. 30. H. Butcher, Hythe, Kent, sadler, at twelve, at Guildhall, London.—Feb. 2. E. Whitelock, Queen's-row, Pentonville, insurance broker, at ten, at Guildhall.—Jan. 21. F. B. Foelsch and J. Merry, Birmingham, porter-dealers, at eleven, at the Castle Inn, Birmingham.—Jan. 19. T. Tite, Daventry, Northampton, auctioneer, at ten, at the Woolpack Inn, Warwick.—Jan. 23. A. Lewis, Banbury, Oxfordshire, mercer, at eleven, at the White Lion, Banbury.—Jan. 19. T. Mason, Sheffield, corn-factor, at twelve, at the Littleton's Arms Inn, Staffordshire.—Jan. 19. J. K. Gratham, Fowey, Cornwall, merchant, at two, at the Talbot Inn, Cornwall.—Jan. 23. J. Ward, Banbury, Oxfordshire, dyer, at one, at the White Lion Inn, Banbury.—Jan. 23. B. Bower, Manchester, merchant, at two, at the Palace Inn, Manchester.—Jan. 27. J. Julian, Robbers' Mill, Northamptonshire, miller, at eleven, at the Blackmoor's Head, Nottingham.—Jan. 23. I. Rowe, Mile-End-green, mariner, at ten, at at Guildhall.

SATURDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.

This Gazette contains a Proclamation regulating the distribution of Prizes during the present war.

The Gazette likewise contains accounts of the following captures:—the French lugger privateer La Sybille, of 1 gun and 43 men, by the Seine, Capt. Atkins; the Spanish privateer Amor de la Patria, by the Bacchante, Capt. Inglefield; the French lugger L'Aigle, of 14 guns and 66 men, by the Resistance, Capt. Adams; and La Reciprocite, French privateer, of 14 guns and 45 men, by the Lion, Capt. Rolles.

BANKRUPTS.

Joseph Pimblott, Macclesfield, grocer, to surrender Jan. 15, at three, 16, at eleven, Feb. 13, at two, at the Macclesfield Arms Hotel, Macclesfield. Attorney, Mr. Grimsditch, Macclesfield.

Joseph Horrocks, Bolton, Lancashire, muslin-manufacturer, Jan. 9, 29, Feb. 13, at eleven, at the Bridge Inn, Bolton. Attorney, Mr. Boardman, Bolton.

Thomas Lockier, Upper Thames-street, London, merchant, Jan. 5, 23, at three, Feb. 13, at twelve, at Guildhall. Attornies, Messrs. Dennetts and Greaves, King's Arms Yard, Coleman-street.

William Bishop, Staplehurst, Kent, sadler, Jan. 8, 9, Feb. 13, at eleven, at the George Inn, Cranbrook. Attorney, Mr. Ottaway, Staplehurst.

DIVIDENDS.

Jan. 27. T. Weaver, Manchester, cornfactor, at eleven, at the Dog Tavern, Manchester.—Jan. 27. H. Jenner, Norwich, linen-draper, at four, at the King's Head, Norwich.—Jan. 25. A. Johnson, Chesterfield, Derbyshire, grocer, at eleven, at the Falcon Inn, Chesterfield.—Jan. 25. S. Sanforth the younger and J. Cartledge, Chesterfield, Derbyshire, potters, at four, at the Angel, Chesterfield.—Feb. 1. E. Oates, Leeds, Yorkshire, drysalter, at eleven, at the Hotel, Leeds.—Jan. 28. T. Abell, Attleburgh, Norfolk, grocer and draper, at eleven, at the Cock Inn, Attleburgh.—Jan. 25. R. Dawson, St. Paul's Church-yard, potter, at ten, at Guildhall.

CERTIFICATES, JAN. 23.

D. Keer, Framlington, Suffolk, surgeon and apothecary.
Wm. Fortnum, Ball-alley, Lombard-street, stationer.
Wm. Hoad, Fareham, Hants, butcher.
John Orgill and Joseph Burton, Manchester.
Wm. Beach, Ludlow, Salop, mercer.

PROSPECTUS.

THE promises of newspapers have become almost as valuable as the promises of courtiers. Every new journal grows vain upon it's modest pretensions; the Proprietors with much unintentional simplicity are always flattering themselves on their industry and genius; and it must be confessed, that no politics can be more impartial, no criticism more refined, and no general information given with a more literary air, than what these gentlemen intend. But all this is magnificent in it's announcement only. The newspaper proves to be like the generality of it's species, very mean in it's subserviency to the follies of the day, very miserably merry in it's puns and it's stories, extremely furious in politics, and quite as feeble in criticism. You are invited to a literary conversation, and you find

nothing but scandal and common-place. There is a flourish of trumpets, and enter Tom Thumb. There is an earthquake, and a worm is thrown up.

The Reader anticipates us here. "Ay," cries he, "here is the old Prospectus cant: every thing is wretched in comparison with the NEW Paper: we shall have the ancient BUT in a minute---BUT THE PROPRIETORS OF THE EXAMINER SCORN TO COME FORWARD---and so forth." This is a very good observation, but a little inapplicable. The Proprietors, who will be the Writers of the EXAMINER, cannot entirely deceive the Town, for they are in some degree already known to the Public. The Gentleman who till lately conducted the THEATRICAL DEPARTMENT in the NEWS, will criticise the Theatre in the EXAMINER; and as the Public have allowed the possibility of IMPARTIALITY in that Department, we do not see why the same possibility may not be obtained in POLITICS.

The great error of politicians is that old fancy of SOLON, who insisted that it was infamous for a citizen to be of no party, and endeavoured by a law to make the Athenians hypocrites. This conceit not only destroys every idea of mediation between two parties, but does not even suppose that both may be wrong. Yet all history may convince us, that he, who resolutely professes himself attached to any party, is in danger of yielding to every extreme for the mere reputation of his opinion: he will argue for the most manifest errors of this or that statesman, because he has hitherto agreed with him---an obstinacy as stupid, as if a pedestrian were to express his satisfaction with a tempest at night, because he had enjoyed sunshine in the morning.

The big and little Endians in Gulliver have not yet taught us the folly of mere party; and one of the most ridiculous inconsistencies in the human character is that enjoyment, which all ages have expressed in satirical productions, without receiving benefit from them: they drink the physic with a bold and pleasant countenance, and instantly prepare to counteract it's effect; or rather, every man thinks the physic excellent for every body but himself.---"Party," says SWIFT, "is the madness of many for the gain of a few." When Scaramentado in VOLTAIRE arrived at Ispahan, he was asked whether he was for black mutton or white mutton: he replied, that it was equally indifferent to him, provided it was tender. A wise man knows no party abstracted from it's utility, or existing, like a shadow, merely from the opposition of some body. Yet in the present day, we are all so erroneously sociable, that every man, as well as every journal must belong to some class of politicians; he is either Pittite or Foxite, Windhamite, Wilberforcite, or Burdettite; though at the same time two-thirds of these disturbers of coffee-houses might with as much reason call themselves Hivites or Shunamites, or perhaps Bedlamites.

A crowd is no place for steady observation. The EXAMINER has escaped from the throng and bustle, but he will seat himself by the way-side and comtemplate the moving multitude as they wrangle and wrestle along. He does not mean to be as noisy as the objects of his contemplation, or to abuse them for a bustle which resistance merely encreases, or even to take any notice of those mischievous wags who might kick the mud towards him as they drive along: but the more rational part of the multitude will be obliged to him, when he warns them of an approaching shower, or invites them to sit down with him and rest themselves, or advises them to take care of their pockets. As to the language and style in which this advice will be given, it would be ridiculous to promise that which haste or the head-ach might hinder him from performing. Perhaps it must still be left to statesmen to abuse in politics.

With respect to the THEATRIC CRITICISM, the Proprietors merely observe, that it will be in the same Palace of opinion and manner with the LATE Theatrical Observations in the NEWS. The Critic trusts he has already proved in that paper, that he has no respect for error however long established, or for vanity however long endured. He will still admire Mr. KEMBLE when dignified, but by no means when pedantic; he hopes still to be satisfied with Mr. DIBDIN in a Christmas Pantomime, but is afraid he shall differ with him as to his powers for Comedy. Yet the Town may be assured, that if either Mr. DIBDIN or Mr. REYNOLDS should suddenly become a man of wit, the Critic will be as eager to announce the metamorphosis as if it were the discovery of transmuting lead into gold. Perhaps he may be considered vain in proclaiming his qualifications for criticism, but he cannot help betraying, how infinitely the dramatists of the day have abused him. He would not have mentioned this, but the natural infirmity of an author, speaking of himself, must be pardoned for once, especially when he does not dwell upon so flattering a subject.

The little attention which newspapers pay to the FINE ARTS, is no little proof of an indifferent taste, especially when we consider that this country possesses it's own school of painting; that we have artists like WEST, who claim every merit so much admired in the old masters except indeed that of being in the grave; and that a youth, named WILKIE, has united HOGARTH with the Dutch school by combining the most delicate character with the most delicate precision of drawing. These great geniuses make us the best compensation for the loss of the drama by reviving Tragedy and Comedy on the canvas. Yet they are scarcely ever noticed except in those annual sketches of the Exhibition, which a newspaper cannot help giving because they constitute part of the fugitive news. We will try therefore to do a little better. An artist will conduct our department of the Fine Arts. If he does not promise for his taste, he promises for his industry. He will be eager in announcing to the public not only the promiscuous merits of Exhibitions, but those individual pictures which deserve to engage the public attention singly, those happy rarities, which like the WOLFE and LA HOGUE of WEST, and the VILLAGE POLITICIANS, BLIND FIDLER, and STEWARD RECEIVING RENT, of WILKIE, almost create æras in the history of painting.

As it requires but a moderate portion of good sense to regulate the DOMESTIC ECONOMY of a newspaper, the Proprietors might indulge themselves a little more perhaps in promising peculiar care in this department. At any rate they will never acquiesce in those gayer or gloomier follies of the world, whether of rakes or of prize-fighters, to which the papers give their sanction with so cold-blooded an indifference. They do not intend, like the SOCIETY FOR THE SUPPRESSION OF VICE, to frighten away the innocent enjoyments of the poor by dressing Religion in a beadle's laced hat and praying heaven to bless the ways of informers; but they will never speak of adultery and seduction with levity, nor affect to value that man, however high his rank or profuse of interest his connection, who dares to take advantage of his elevation in society to trample with gayer disdain on the social duties. As to those selfish and vulgar cowards, whether jockies, who will run a horse to death, or cockfighters, who sit down to a table on which fowls are served up alive,---as to those miserable ruffians, whether the ornaments of a gaol or the disgracers of a noble house, who thank God for giving them strength by endeavouring to annihilate the strength of others, who, like a Hottentot beauty, value themselves upon a few bones, and call fighting for a few guineas English spirit, they are most probably out of the reach of literary ridicule, which must be read before it is felt; but we shall use our strongest endeavour to hold up them and their admirers to the contempt of others who might mistake their murderous business for manliness. What! Shall English noblemen croud the highways to admire the exploits of a few thieves and butchers? Shall they rush from the Court and the Senate to enrich a few sturdy vas

gabonds with the labour of their virtuous peasantry, to shout over a fallen brute, and to be astonished at that sublime merit which is excelled by the leg of a dray-horse? What an amiable vivacity!

We are almost afraid to say that NO ADVERTISEMENTS WILL BE ADMITTED in the EXAMINER, for this assertion generally means that they will; but the public will be inclined perhaps to believe the Proprietors when they declare, that though they intend to be engaged in the publication of books, they will not advertise a single one of their own works. Advertisements therefore will hardly be inserted for any body else: they shall neither come staring in the first page at the breakfast table to deprive the reader of a whole page of entertainment, nor shall they win their silent way into the recesses of the paper under the mask of general Paragraph to filch even a few lines: the public shall neither be tempted to listen to somebody in the shape of a wit who turns out to be a lottery-keeper, nor seduced to hear a magnificent oration which finishes by retreating into a peruke or rolling off into a blacking-ball.

If some weekly papers however have a page of Advertisements at the beginning, they have also a page of Markets at the end: they commence by informing us of the retail of London, and conclude by communicating the wholesale. This is a pleasant uniformity, especially in a paper containing all the news of the week. But as there are fifteen daily papers that present us with advertisements six days in the week, and as there is perhaps about one person in a hundred, who is pleased to see two or three columns occupied with the mutabilities of cattle and the vicissitudes of leather, the Proprietors of the EXAMINER will have as little to do with bulls and raw hides as with lottery-men and wig-makers.

Above all, the New Paper shall not be disgraced by those abandoned hypocrites, whose greatest quackery is their denial of being quacks. Their vile indecency shall not gloat through the mask of philanthropy, sickness shall not be flattered into incurability, nor debauchery indulged to the last gasp by the promises of instant restoration. If the paper cannot be witty or profound, it shall at least never be profligate.

PRICE OF STOCKS YESTERDAY.

3 per Ct. Cons. shut.—Ditto for Open. 61¼.

3 per Cent. Red. 63⅛.

[The First Number of a Set of Original Essays, under the Head of the LITERARY AND PHILOSOPHICAL EXAMINER, will appear in the Paper of next Week; together with an Essay under the Head of FINE ARTS. These Essays will always be resumed in the absence of more temporary matter.]

THE EXAMINER.

LONDON:

SUNDAY, JANUARY 3.

THE new Proclamation of the PRINCE REGENT of Portugal is really a very amusing piece of good-nature. After detailing their various duties to his deputies, he requests that they will endeavour to provide good quarters and every other convenience for the French troops, that they will neither give nor resent an insult, and that they will maintain, as becomes them, *the good harmony which ought to be displayed to the armies of nations with whom they find themselves united on the Continent.* Find themselves! Only let us conceive a man who suddenly *finds* himself connected with a particular friend. Portugal is really a most inexplicable kind of ally. The PRINCE, in the first instance, submits to NAPOLEON upon the merest hint of hostility and declares himself the ally of France against England; but while his new friend is approaching his doors, he feels alarmed, and walks out, as it were, at the back of his house under the protection of England: this credulous old friend is enchanted, she takes the misguided but always *magnanimous* Prince under her protection, and while she is conducting him over the seas to a place of safety, he leaves a paper behind him full of extreme politeness towards his expected visitor, so that one is at a loss to discover what motive he could have for running away from so respected a guest.

The fact is, that all the actions of this Prince have been dictated by mere fear: he is afraid to lose his life, and he is afraid to lose his throne: he therefore shelters himself under the arms of England, that he may secure the one, and behaves with the most abject humility to NAPOLEON, that he may regain the other. What a double stupidity is there in this double policy! England must despise him for his adherence to France, and France will make him suffer for his adherence to England.

What will our Naval Officers think, when they find that they have been protecting one of the meanest slaves of the FRENCH EMPEROR, after he had broken his faith too with their country and been forgiven? If England thinks the Brazils worth the conquest, she will have to contend with an army which she has carried over for her enemy, though no very alarming resistance is to be expected from those who would not even try to defend their own native soil. But it is most probable, that the Emperor NAPOLEON, who, like MOHAMMED, is very fond of preaching with the sword in his hand, will take advantage of DON JUAN's flight to represent him to the Portuguese as a deserter of his country, and a weak man, totally unfit to govern a *wise* people.

Yet Lord STRANGFORD must give his Highness the old ally-epithet *magnanimous*. His Lordship, indeed, has a taste for poetry, and may, therefore, be indulged in a little fiction; but really this is carrying too much poetry into politics. The state of royal intellect on the Continent is, indeed, a most fortunate circumstance for NAPOLEON.

Under the head of Slave Trade a strange article will be found: it consists of certain resolutions unanimously passed by the Jamaica House of Assembly, respecting the effects of the abolition of that trade. The Assembly adopts a very proud and dictatorial tone, and concludes by demanding, that the Imperial Parliament should abandon every pretension to

terference with their affairs. It is sincerely to be hoped by every Englishman, and every human being, that the execrable traffic in mankind should be annihilated; and it is ridiculous in the Merchants of Jamaica, to set their little interests against the happiness of millions: but it certainly appears a strange inconsistency in our political economy, to allow a petty borough, a mere house or two, or sometimes, in fact, a mere barren and uninhabited spot, to have its representative in Parliament, and yet deny this protecting privilege to an extensive and populous island. The Jamaica Member of Parliament might have been heard with the rest of the partizans of slavery, and he would have been silenced with the rest. When the West India Planters talk of the personal danger with which they are threatened, they talk like guilty men, and not like good masters. Perhaps there never was an insurrection or massacre in any one of the West Indian or South American settlements, which has not originated in the caprice and cruelty of the Planters, and it will be difficult to find a single good master who has not met with the utmost gratitude and personal affection from his slaves. See upon this subject the voyage of Capt. STEDMAN to Surinam, and particularly Dr. PINCKARD on the West Indies.

During a debate on the 27th November in the House of Representatives upon the Memorial presented by the Philadelphia Merchants against the Non-Importation Act, several of the Members talked of an approaching war with England as a very probable event. Nothing, however, with respect to the present state of American feeling towards us can be gathered from a discussion of that date. We must wait till the effect of Mr. ROSE's mission has transpired. A war with America would produce no serious evil either to this country or to herself. Philosophically considered, there is no folly so base and deplorable as a warfare without perfect necessity; and it is to be hoped that the feeling of relationship, which lingers at the bottom of every dispute between the two countries, will induce them to shake hands and be wise.

Paris Papers arrived yesterday morning. They contain another furious decree from the FRENCH EMPEROR in retaliation upon our late commercial orders. It is merely an extension of his former naval decrees, a repetition of his imaginary blockade, and an outlawry of all ships that have any way acknowledged the English taxes and restrictions. He is very droll as usual about justice and the law of nations.

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Some interesting intelligence has been received from Lisbon, relative to the embarkation of the Portugueze Court. It appears that Lord STRANGFORD, on returning to Lisbon, directed his steps towards the Palace, expecting to find there its former inmates. Nothing, however, could equal his Lordship's surprise to find the bird flown, and those apartments empty which he had left occupied by a Court. From this it would appear that British interference was not so immediate a cause of the emigration as has been represented. Don RODERICO and Don JOHN D'ALMEIDA, were on board the Principe Real along with his Royal Highness; ARAUJO was on board the Minerva frigate, but not, as reported, in disgrace; and the Portugueze assert that he has done nothing to deserve it. The PRINCE is said to have particularly desired that Capt. MOORE, the Officer appointed to accompany him, might take only four sail of the line, and not proceed beyond a certain latitude. It is farther stated, that only one English Land-Officer (General FORBES) has gone with the PRINCE, and not one of the many British Sea-Officers who were in the Portuguese service. Don PEDRO, a Spanish Prince, nephew to the Prince of ASTURIAS, is likewise said to have quitted Portugal along with the Royal Family of that Country. He is now about 18 years of age, and has been educated at the Court of Lisbon from his infancy. It is not surprising that he should prefer sharing the fortunes of his earliest friends and protectors, to returning to his native land, beset as it is with dangers, and agitated by intestine discords. It is stated, that an Aid-de-Camp of Gen. JUNOT's reached Lisbon on the day the Court embarked; and having requested an audience of the PRINCE, then on board the Principe Real, dropped down the River with the Royal Family, and was set on shore on the 29th, before the junction of the British with the Portugueze fleet. It was supposed to have been the object of the Aid-de-Camp to amuse his Royal Highness with new offers, until his retreat should be cut off by the French troops getting possession of the forts St. Julien and Cascaes, which, it appears, they were strenuously endeavouring to accomplish. The main army was, on the 29th, at some distance from the capital.

Capt. DOUBTCE, of the ship Governor Mills, arrived in town on Wednesday from Jacmel, in St. Domingo. He left the island on the 5th ult. and gives a very different account of the conflicts between PETION and CHRISTOPHE from that which has been circulated on the authority of more recent advices. Capt. D. confirms the statement, that three distinct engagements took place before the Fort of St. Mark; but he asserts that none of them were attended with disastrous consequences to PETION. Both parties claimed the victory after the last rencontre; yet it is reasonable to suppose that PETION's forces were worsted, because they retired to some fortification under a large hill at a short distance. PETION's army, it was expected, would be shortly reinforced; and Gen. BONETTE was to resign the command in favour of GARRARD, a Black General of great renown. The next attack upon Fort St. Mark, it was thought, would take place about the latter end of November, and the followers of PETION promised themselves complete success. PETION's army had been acting offensively for some time past. Fort St. Mark, which has been the grand object of attack, lies in the center of CHRISTOPHE's territories. PETION's forces are in possession of Port-de-Paix, Port-au-Prince, Cape Nicola Mole, and several other strong places. PETION himself was confined at Port-au-

Prince by illness. The Generals on both sides are exceedingly rich; they are open to bribery, and it is necessary to keep a watchful eye over them. Capt. Dounick, in the Governor Mills, sailed in company with the Vestal. Off Cape Francois, a French Privateer attempted to capture the Vestal in a calm, when the Governor Mills having some guns on board, bore down to her assistance, and handled the privateer so roughly, that she was obliged to sheer off. The privateer hailed Capt. Dounick, before they parted, and proposed not to molest him, provided he would suffer him to take the Vestal. The Captain answered him with a broadside, which ended the parley.

We are sorry to announce the loss of the fine frigate Anson, with Capt. Lydiard and First Lieutenant: 150 of the crew are missing. She was driven off the French coast; endeavoured, but could not weather the Lizard, and after being embayed, and losing every anchor, came in before the gale, and struck on the Bar sand, near Port Reath, two miles from Helston, 14 from Falmouth.

Apprehensions, we regret to hear, are entertained for the safety of Lord Hutchinson, and his brother, the Hon. Christopher Hutchinson, one of the Representatives for the City of Cork. Government, we understand, received intelligence of their having sailed from a Swedish port three weeks ago, since which nothing farther has been heard of them.

The national estate and residence for the family of the gallant Nelson, voted by Parliament, are about to be purchased; and report says, that the Lords of the Treasury are in treaty for the seat and demesne of the late Mr. Middleton, near Southampton, for that purpose.

The Comet.—Mr. Walker, of Hayes, states, that this curious visitant is still visible near the brightest star of the Swan, and not distant from a beautiful Cluster Nibula, of small stars. He saw it on the 26th and 30th, and conjectures that, by diligent research, it will be probably seen here a month longer.

The following are the principal Members of the Royal Family of Portugal, who have embarked for the Brazils:—

Maria Francisca Elizabeth, Queen of Portugal and Algarva, born December 17, 1734, married her uncle, Don Pedro III. King of Portugal, who died 25th May, 1806.

Juan Maria Joseph Lewis, Infant of Portugal, Prince Regent, born the 13th of May, 1767, and married June 9, 1785.

Charlotta Joachima, Infanta of Spain, and Princess of Brazil.

Maria Ann Francisca Josephina, sister of the Queen, born Oct. 7, 1736.

Maria Francisca Benedictina, sister of the Queen, born July 24, 1756; married Joseph Francis Xavier, Prince of Brazil, who died the 10th Sept. 1788.

The following are the Children of the Prince Regent:—

Don Antonio, Prince of Beira, born August 12, 1798.
Michael, &c. born October 26, 1802.
Maria Theresa, born April 29, 1793.
Isabella Maria Francisca, born May 19, 1797.
Maria Francisca, born April 22, 1800.
Isabella Mariat, born July 4, 1801.

The Republic of America is beginning to be emulous of the Arts. Capital casts from all the noblest statues of antiquity in Paris, and they are almost all in the world, have reached New York and Philadelphia, for the rival Academies of Painting just established in those aspiring cities. To such enthusiastic rivalry among cities, Greece was indebted for half its renown. Next May an exhibition of Paintings will be opened in a grand Rotunda in Philadelphia, which will boast of having the *Lear* and the *Ophelia* of the President of the Royal Academy in London. Though America has not yet nurtured, she has given birth to several distinguished artists; and among others, to the President West, to Trumbul, and Copley.

An Exhibition is just opened at Bath, containing some fine paintings of West, Barker, &c. It is to be annual, and promises to be successful.

In consequence of private information, last Thursday morning Mr. Nares, the Magistrate, issued a warrant against Captains Campbell and Herbert, of the East-India Company's service, and dispatched Adkins, and T. Jones, a patrole, to apprehend the duellists on Wimbledon Common. At the Robin Hood and Little John Inn they met the Rev. M. Butcher, an active Magistrate of Wandsworth, on horseback, who was on the same scent, and had private information that the death-darers were to fight on the same spot where Sir F. Burdett and Mr. Paull did, on Coomb's Warren. The Magistrate took the road, the officer the wood. When the latter got on the warren, he heard the report of two pistols, but saw no one. Mr. Butcher came up and lent him his horse, when he soon arrived where the reports came from, and met Capt. Herbert, Mr. Simpson his Second, and Mr. G. Canney, a surgeon, in a chaise. He told them he had a warrant against them, and they were his prisoners. After some hesitation they very properly surrendered to his authority. Leaving them at the Robin Hood in custody of Mr. Butcher, he went in pursuit of Capt. Campbell, and his Second, Mr. G. W. Barnes, whom he brought to the Robin Hood Inn, and proceeded with both parties to London.—In the evening, before Mr. Graham, it appeared that the Captains had fought when Adkins heard the reports, without either party being injured, and were reconciled by the Seconds. Mr. Graham, however, held the parties, their Seconds, and Surgeon, to bail, themselves in 200l. and two sureties in 100l. each.—The cause of dispute was a female.

A duel was lately fought at the Cove of Cork, between two Officers of the Polyphemus, of 64 guns, which proved fatal to one of the parties, who died on Monday se'nnight. The deceased desired that his opponent might be forgiven.

Sir Francis Bourgois not only inherits the valuable collection of his Pictures by the decease of his late friend Mr. Desenfans, but also a pecuniary legacy of 20,000l. under the will of that Gentleman.

A young man of respectable connections, who for three years has been Clerk in a Mercantile-house, is in custody on charges of forgery to a very considerable amount. There are also complaints against him for various embezzlements and concealments of cash and goods.

The English word Gentleman is derived from the French *Gentilhomme*, and the Italian *Gentiluomo*, and in the three languages means literally, a man of *gentle* manners, that is, a man whose deportment *on all occasions* in society is regulated by *an amiable propriety*. Are then the betters on the bones, blood, and bruises of blackguards, and the holders of their stakes in the horrid ring, are they *Gentlemen?* Certainly not, It must certainly then either be a mistake or a libel that has recently crept in to some daily papers, which state that Major MORGAN has betted 250 guineas in favour of Gulley, against one Jackson, in favour of Gregson, and that the Hon. BERKELEY CRAVEN is requested to appear in the ferocious circle to hold the stakes, on the 10th of May next, in the vicinity of Newmarket; and this arrangement to be finally settled at the *Craven* Meeting. The reporters of this beastly business must have mistaken two smock-frocked plebeians, of similar names and pugilistic notoriety, for those gentlemen. We are the more inclined to this belief when we find one of the conditions to be, "Neither to fall without *a knock-down* blow," for such stipulation cannot arise from *gentlemen*. Beside, the *Honourable* B. CRAVEN is heir apparent to a seat in the Legislature; and the ring of ignorance, blasphemy, and vulgarity, is certainly not the school in which Orators and Statesmen should learn to fight the glorious cause of their country. We will inquire into this.

A meeting took place at an early hour yesterday morning, on a common near Stanmore, between a Merchant of opulence and a Lieutenant K——, of the Marines, in consequence of some unbecoming familiarities said to have been used towards a niece of the former Gentleman by the latter. The parties alighted at the place above described from two post chaises, but apprehensive of being molested, they crossed the Watford-road, to a field near the fourth bridge on the Paddington Canal, where two shots each were exchanged without effect, and by the interference of the seconds, the parties retired to a coffee-house in Oxford-street, and adjusted their differences.

The friends or seconds of duellists generally endeavour to reconcile them before the fight, without success. How happens it that their arguments are so prevailing after *one* round. Why, sound persuades where sense could not. FREDERIC the Great, who had himself an extreme taste for fighting, said he could not refuse any of his loving subjects the privilege of duelling; but it must be indulged on two conditions: One of the parties must always shoot his opponent, and the other must be hanged on the spot.

The House of Peers has always been more conspicuous than the Commons for gallantry in admitting ladies into its gallery. His MAJESTY has extended this privilege, and with somewhat of an excess of gallantry has permitted an *old woman* to sit on the Treasury Bench.

BRITISH NAVY.—The amount of the British Navy up to Jan. 1, is as follows:—At sea, 85 ships of the line; 9 from 50 to 44 guns; 121 frigates; 150 sloops, &c. and 159 gun brigs and other vessels; total 524.—In port and fitting, 29 ships of the line; 6 from 50 to 44 guns; 46 frigates; 71 sloops, &c.; and 65 gun brigs and other vessels; total 217.—Guardships, Hospital ships, &c. 30 ships of the line 5 from 50 to 44 guns, 11 frigates, 5 sloops, &c.; and 3 gun brigs and other vessels; total 54.—Building, 47 ships of the line, 18 frigates, 23 sloops, &c.; and 10 gun brigs and other vessels; total 98.—In ordinary, 62 ships of the line, 9 from 50 to 44 guns, 65 frigates, 50 sloops, &c. and 21 gun brigs and other vessels; total 207. Grand total 1,100.

FASHIONS FOR JANUARY.

A MORNING DRESS.—A round cambric gown, a walking length, with short full sleeve, and puckered cuff, buttoned or laced down the back, and made high round the neck, with a full frill of lace. A military stock, edged round the chin with the same. A figured Chinese scarf, the colour American green, twisted round the figure in the style of antique drapery. Melon bonnet the same colour, striped and trimmed to correspond with the scarf. Hair in irregular curls on the forehead. Ear-rings of gold or topaz. Long York-tan, or Limerick gloves, above the elbow. Slippers of yellow Morocco.—This dress, divested of the bonnet, is considered a genteel neglige for any period of the day.

A BALL DRESS.—A Neapolitan robe and petticoat of white or coloured satin, made quite plain. Armorial vest of white satin, beaded in gold stripes. A cestus a-la-Cleopatra, composed of wrought gold and amethysts. Hanging sleeve gathered in front of the arm with broaches of the same. The hair confined from the roots, the ends flowing in irregular curls, leaving the forehead and temples exposed. An Indian casque of tissue, with amethyst ornaments. A long veil of gossamer gauze, rounded at the end, and embroidered in a delicate border of silver or silk, flowing from the centre of the crown, over the right shoulder, and forming a drapery in front of the figure by the attitude of the left hand. Pearl ear-rings of amethyst or pearl. Necklace of pearl, with amethyst star in the centre. White satin slippers, edged with silver beading, and white kid gloves above the elbow.

THEATRICAL EXAMINER.

It is with me a matter of the highest consideration what parts are well or ill performed, what passions or sentiments are indulged or cultivated, and consequently what manners and customs are transfused from the Stage to the world, which reciprocally imitate each other.

SPECTATOR, No. 370.

No. 1.

CRITICISM ON SHAKSPEARE'S MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING AND IT'S PERFORMANCE AT COVENT-GARDEN—LEWIS AND ELLISTON COMPARED IN BENEDICK—SINGULAR DRESSES OF THE ACTORS IN THIS PLAY.—A QUESTION RESPECTING THE MASKS USED IN PANTOMIME.

It is my good fortune to commence my dramatic criticism with SHAKSPEARE. I feel just now like one who ventures out on St. Valentine's morning to draw a good or bad omen for his love from the first woman he meets; he descries a young female; she is very pretty, and seems to smile as she crosses him: he blesses his amorous stars that she is neither ancient nor ugly; thus the first author I meet is SHAKSPEARE, and I bless my critical stars that it is neither DIBD—But, poor fellows, let them rest in the first paper.

The comedy of *Much Ado About Nothing*, which was revived at this theatre on Wednesday night, is one of those happy compounds of wit and humour, which can alternately delight the fancy of the polite part of the audience, and call down the jovial roar from the galleries. When this combination is natural,

it is always a proof of mastery in the author. The modern sentimental comedies, which attempt this double praise, always run into extremes to please the two parts of their audience. When they would gain the attention of the boxes, they adopt a stately sentimentality or at best that kind of unwieldy floweriness which like a moving green on May-day is nothing but a splendid concealment of poverty and vulgarity;—when they would animate the galleries, a character bursts before you in some fantastic dress, in some quaint reiterated phrase, or in some outrageous combination of trades and feelings, that like a shop in which pastry is exhibited at one window and perukes at the other, invites you at first sight merely to disgust you the more heartily at second.

If the profuse wit of *Much Ado About Nothing* is as natural as it is lively, the humour though it appears as broad as mere farce is rendered equally natural. This is the effect of giving proper characters their proper language. Characters in fact may always be found which may sanction the lowest humour as well as the loftiest wit, and half the secret of the miserable comedies of our modern writers is their want of natural connection between the speakers and the dialogue: their language is not only wretched but unsuitable to their characters, their characters are not only wretched but unsuitable to their language: the beggar's coat in short is not only a system of rag, but it does not even fit him. There is an exquisite harmony throughout the conduct of SHAKSPEARE's play. The piece commences with the return of a number of gay officers from a victorious campaign, and this single posture of affairs gives a lively anticipation to the audience and prepares them for the good humour and gallantry of the whole play. The two principal men and women are excellently contrasted: *Claudio*, instant in his feelings and incapable of concealing them, but altogether rational and resolute, is opposed to the careless, the mirthful, the apparently thoughtless *Benedick*; while the satirical and talkative though good hearted *Beatrice* presents a fine relief to the retiring sensibility of *Hero*. The merry warfare of raillery between *Benedick* and *Beatrice* is a masterpiece of familiar wit; it is poetry applied to common feelings and common occasions: it has all the art and twice the nature of CONGREVE, for SHAKSPEARE by confining the wit of the play to these two characters has given the ornament to it's proper wearers: CONGREVE in his prodigality of wit literally dispenses his pearls to swine: his lowest characters are always the greatest geniuses in his plays, for one cannot help wondering at the exquisite polish which they have obtained without the advantages of their superiors. What was said of CONGREVE's personages by JOHNSON, in some of the noblest language that pen ever produced, may be applied in all it's brilliancy to *Benedick* and *Beatrice*;—they are "a kind of intellectual gladiators: their wit is a kind of intellectual gladiators, every sentence is to ward or strike; the contest of smartness is never intermitted; their wit is a meteor playing to and fro with alternate coruscations."

The broad humour in this play would become perfect farce in any other persons but a set of old, ignorant, inefficient watchmen, whose constable of the night is as miserably senseless and conceited as his lowness of life and his shadow of office can make him. Though FIELDING, from his legal duties, had sufficient experience for the proper knowledge of such petty despots of justice, yet I dare say he had well studied the humour of these watchmen and the laughable examination of the two courtiers before *Master Dogberry*. It is droll enough to observe the perfect resemblance between SHAKSPEARE's watchmen and those of the present time: they have the same unofficious moderation, the same contempt of bustle, the same patient acquiescence, and the some Epicurean love of ease and retirement, that distinguish our own nocturnal guardians, who may be defined to be so many old men in great coats, condemned for a certain small payment to shorten their lives by dozing half the night in boxes exposed to the air.

The play was altogether performed with much animation. Mr. LEWIS in *Benedick* naturally provokes a comparison with ELLISTON, and it is pleasing to see how excellently two actors can support the same character with their own separate originality. LEWIS excels in all the lighter parts of the character, ELLISTON in the more earnest and impassioned: in ELLISTON you have more of the frank soldier, more of the man of rank, more of the resolute lover; in LEWIS you have more of the airy gallant, of the careless hey-day fellow, of the merry soul who turns every thing into a jest: when *Benedick's* manner is serious or when his humour acquires an additional dryness from gravity, you are intent upon the forceful syle of ELLISTON, who is the first actor upon the stage in giving what may be called solidity to humour: LEWIS, it must be confessed has no seriousness at all: when he attempts a grave surprise he exhibits a prominence of mouth that any other actor but FAWCETT would reckon ludicrous; and the short breathlessness with which he chips his words as they dart forward, always hinders him from expressing a natural gravity in his dialogue: but as five parts of *Benedick's* composition are mere wit and carelessness, Mr. LEWIS's deficiency in seriousness is perhaps the more natural in a character of such mirthful habits. It is true, that those persons who have a strong feeling of the humourous very often display more external gravity than others and perhaps more often feel a real gravity; but it will generally be found, that he who is always laughing and always breaking jests is somewhat deficient in serious sensibility, for the soul generally contrives to look out of the features and manner of persons accustomed to society.

Mrs. H. JOHNSTON re-appeared after an absence of two years in the part of *Beatrice*, and perhaps it is not paying a great compliment to her performance to prefer her delivery of the harsher feelings of the character to it's good-humoured levity. *Beatrice* is a very merry lady with a very good heart, she is the counterpart in short of *Benedick*, and Mrs. H. JOHNSTON mistook the warm satirist when she uttered her wishes of revenge against *Hero's* calumniator with a gloominess and harshness of countenance bordering on malignity. I hope, that one may be capable of great severity without distorting one's temper, or manner, or features, with mere rancour. *Beatrice* is sufficiently revengeful, I allow; but there is a proud and there is a mean revenge, there is the revenge of an ancient

Spaniard and the revenge of a North-American cannibal: none but bad hearts exhibit in the countenance a mere, disgusting malice. In some of the gayer speeches, Mrs. H. Johnston was natural and elegant, but in her general raillery she was a hundred times inferior to Mrs. Jordan and Miss Duncan. The next time she hides herself behind trees and arbours, she would do well to conceal her person as well as face. To hide the countenance and leave a long flowing robe in view, is like the folly of the ostrich, who thinks to escape it's pursuers by thrusting it's beak behind a tree and shutting it's eyes.

I could not discover what was intended by the dresses of the gentlemen in this play. There is an astonishing disregard of chronological propriety at the theatres, and yet they tell us that the acting manager of Covent-Garden is a man of reading. The time of *Much Ado about Nothing* has not been settled, if I recollect rightly, by any of the commentators, but as it introduces a Prince of Arragon, who visits the Governor of Messina with familiar condescension and appears to carry his Court with him into Sicily, it may naturally be supposed that the action is during that period when Sicily was in possession of the House of Arragon. The last Sicilian king of this house reigned at the beginning of the fifteenth century, when the dresses of every polite nation in Europe were totally different from their present mode: the manager of Covent-Garden therefore has dressed his Spanish prince of the 14th or 15th century like a modern English gentleman in a blue coat, white breeches and stockings, and an opera hat; one of his Spanish officers appears in the exact regimentals of our present infantry, and the Italian officers exhibit the same identical coats and breeches which their descendants wear at this day. I do not know how Mr. Kemble reconciles this to his studious soul, to his old affectation of thoughtful propriety.

DRURY-LANE AND COVENT-GARDEN.

The usual Christmas pantomimes are in full activity at both the theatres. That at Drury-lane was by no means admired the first night, as any body might have suspected from the string of eulogies in the next morning's play-bill: but then the one at Covent-Garden is universally said to be inferior to no pantomime but *Mother Goose*. This is the opinion of all the little boys of any discrimination. It is evident, that Mr. Dibdin means to outshine the whole genius of Sadler's Wells.

I write this article merely because my readers should not think themselves neglected even in the most trifling of trifles, for I do not mean to criticise that indescribable species of drama which consists in mere legerdemain, in a continued bustle of fiddles and feet, and in giving people huge slaps on the face. A spectacle in which little is understood and nothing gained is unworthy serious criticism. The modern pantomime appears to me to be capable of great improvement without losing any of it's essential qualities. *Harlequin* is a very merry personage; his many-coloured habit, his fantastic dances, his disjointed jumps and postures, his conjurations with wooden sword, and his utter contempt of ease and rest, not to mention that gradual spin of his pericranium which is so alarmingly facetious, present an inexhaustible fund of merriment to all my little masters. But why should this good humoured gentleman be deprived of his features? Why extinguish his merry face with a mask? Surely if one should meet a pleasant fellow in company, nobody would wish to cover his sociability of countenance. I allow, that all sensible *Harlequins* endeavour to supply their deficiency of face by throwing it's expression, as much as possible, into their actions; thus when the party-coloured humourist is alarmed, he shakes his head and his hands, and darts away; when he is pleased he wags his sword, just as a dog wags his tail. All this is very logical and expressive; but cannot he do quite as much and give us his face too? If custom is in the way, set it aside: custom is good for nothing but to sanction what is rational. We do not lie down in cramped postures to dinner as the Romans did, we do not mask our actors as they did, why should we mask our pantomimists because the Romans chose to deprive human expression of it's divinest instrument, or because one Arlequin, some centuries ago, thought proper to make his face half white-man and half negro? Macrobius relates a very fine anecdote of the celebrated Pylades, who in the reign of Augustus introduced pantomime on the stage as a distinct species of drama. It is surprising that this pantomimist who seems to have been capable of the finest conceptions should never have thought of divesting his face of so unnatural a concealment. He was present one day at a performance, in which Hylas, his rival, was accompanying by attitude and gesture a hymn that concluded with speaking of *the great Agamemnon*. Hylas, to express the greatness of the hero, measured the air with an elevated gesture, and Pylades immediately cried out, "You make him tall, not great." The audience requested him to give them an example of the proper action; the hymn was repeated, and when Pylades heard the words, *the great Agamemnon*, he put himself in a posture of profound meditation. Nothing could be more simple or sublime; but only think of the motionless mask all this time!

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MISCELLANEOUS SKETCHES

UPON TEMPORARY SUBJECTS, &c.

NAPOLEON IN HIS CABINET.

Scene, A Cabinet at St. Cloud.

Napoleon (*ruminating before a fire and grasping the poker.*) Who waits there?

Le M. May it please your Majesty, your faithful soldier, Le Meurtrier.

Nap. Tell Sultan Mustapha, that he is the last of the Sultans.

Le M. Yes, Sire.

Nap. And hark ye—desire the King of Holland to come to me directly.

Le M. Yes, Sire.

Nap. And the King of Westphalia.—(*Aside*) I must tweak Jerome by the nose a little to teach him dignity.

Le M. (*with hesitation*) M. Champagny, Sire, waits to know your Majesty's pleasure respecting the King of Sweden.

NAP. Oh—tell him—I'll let the boy alone for a month or two. And stay, Le Meurtrier, go to the Editor of the *Moniteur* and tell him to dethrone the Queen of Portugal—Spain's dethronement is put off to next year—Where's Biensezince?

(*Exit* LE MEURTRIER *and enter* BIENSEANCE.)

BIEN. May it please your august Majesty, Biensezance is before you.

NAP. Fetch me General F.'s head and a cup of coffee.

BIEN. (*smiling with devotion*) Every syllable uttered by the great Napoleon convinces Frenchmen that he is their father. (*Exit* BIENSEANCE.)

NAP. (*meditating with ferocity*) After driving the Turks out of Europe (*pokes the fire*) I must annihilate England (*gives a furious poke*)—but first I shall over-run India: then I shall request America and Africa to put themselves under my protection, and after making that great jackass the Russian Emperor one of my tributaries, crown myself Emperor of the East—West—North—and South. Then I must have a balloon army, of which Garnerin shall be Field Marshal, for I must positively take possession of the Comet, because it makes a noise. That will assist me to conquer the solar system, and then I shall go with my armies to the other systems, and then—I think—I shall go to the Devil.

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SLAVE TRADE.

The last Jamaica Papers contain certain Resolutions, eight in number, which had been brought up from a Committee appointed to enquire into the effects of Abolishing the Slave Trade, and which Resolutions were severally read and unanimously agreed to by a Committee of the whole House of Assembly, on the 29th day of October last. The Gentlemen of the House of Assembly express their feelings very warmly, both on the subject immediately under discussion, and also on a variety of others, which are intimately connected with the state of the Island.

The first Resolution, which is the most important, states generally—

"That the Act of the Imperial Parliament for abolishing the Slave Trade is pregnant with evils to this Island, militating not only against its general welfare and interest, but threatening its total destruction as a British West India Colony."

After explaining the evils, which they say are likely to result to the Colony from the Abolition Act, the Resolution diverges into a variety of other topics illustrative of the causes of the present distressed state of the British Planters. These may be generally resolved into the relaxation of the Navigation Act, as far as it imposes restrictions upon Neutral Powers, and the rigorous enforcement of it in relation to our own subjects. "The consumption of foreign brandy in the Navy, and otherwise," is a grievance which undoubtedly ought to be, and which recently has been superseded by the use of rum. The continuing a high duty upon coffee is another evil, which, notwithstanding the clamours it will excite in this Country, we likewise think it ought to be redressed in favour of the planter. The Resolution also concludes with a recommendation of the Committee, adopted by the House, to appoint another Committee—

"To prepare a most humble Address to his Majesty, setting forth these our grievances and oppressions, earnestly beseeching his Majesty's commands on his Ministers to adopt proper measures for our relief and redress."

The second Resolution states the Abolition of the Slave Trade to be—

"Not only a breach on the part of Government of the conditions under which his Majesty's subjects embarked in the settlement of this island, but a novel, unjust, and unconstitutional interference with its internal government and affairs; calculated to defeat and subvert our laws, 'to deprive us of our dearest birth-rights, the Trial by Jury,' to raise envy and jealousy in the breasts of the settled negroes; subversive of an ancient and admitted principle of the British Constitution, that no laws can be binding on those who are not represented in the Parliament which enacts them; placing not only our rights and properties, but also our lives, in the most imminent danger, and tending to promote disaffection in the minds of his Majesty's most loyal subjects."

The complaint, that the Colonists are in some instances deprived of the Trial by Jury, originates in this—that offences against the Abolition Act may be tried not only by a Court of Record, but also by the Court of Vice-Admiralty, even though such offences are committed in the interior of the Island.

The third Resolution claims for the Legislature of Jamaica the sole right of legislating for the island; and declares—

"That it is their duty, by all constitutional means, to resist the attempt that has been and every attempt that may be made, to destroy or to abridge that right."

The 4th, 5th, 6th, and 7th Resolutions, contain a threat, that all supplies afforded to his Majesty's troops, for the building of barracks and other military purposes, will and must be suspended from and after the 31st of December, 1808: till which time funds are appropriated for that purpose.

The 8th and last Resolution sums up the whole of their grievances; and demands—

"Above all, an abandonment by the Imperial Parliament of every pretension to an interference with their internal government or affairs."

AGRICULTURAL REPORT FOR DECEMBER.

On dry soils, a large breadth of land, has been already plowed up for barley and peas. The green winter crops of wheat, tares, turnips, and rye, from the mildness of the weather, look kind and flourishing. Manuring meadows, hedging and ditching have been also carried on to a great extent.

Many hands are now employed in the barns and in thrashing mills, which last are to be found, on most large farms, and in general give satisfaction, doing their work effectually. The barley crop does not yield equal to expectation, but no deficiency has, as yet, been experienced in the wheat and oat crops already threshed. Wheat averages throughout England and Wales 70s. 8¾d. per quarter—Oats 33s.—and Barley 38s. 1½d.

The straw proving short and small in bulk, and a scarcity of fodder being expected, the prices of lean stock have been considerably reduced. This consideration brought immense droves to the late fairs and markets, where little business was however done, farmers fearing to make large purchases, and hay being dear. Cows and Calves (for the time of the year) have been offered une-

sually low. In Smithfield market, Beef fetches from 5s. to 6s. per stone of 8lb.—Mutton from 4s. 4d. to 5s. 4d.—Pork from 4s. to 4s. 8d.

Fresh Horses and porking Pigs obtain good prices, being much wanted.

LAW.

IRISH COURT OF EXCHEQUER.

MANSERGH *v.* HACKET.

This action for damages for criminal conversation with Mrs. Mansergh, was tried on the 10th ult. The damages were modestly laid at 5000l. by the ignominious dealer in the adultery of his wife, from whose fine form the grace-enlivening robe of modesty had long since been withdrawn by the daring hand of licentiousness. We will not affront the purity of our readers by imitating the indecent example of a Morning Paper in detailing the gross minutiæ of evidence, but give the leading outlines. If the Editor of that paper is a husband, a father, or a brother, he is either only so in blood, and not in heart-felt emotion, or he is devoid of that respect which is due from a public writer to his employers, and is become the *Herald* of his own disgrace. Devoid indeed of virtuous reflection and decency must that man be who can deliberately issue forth pages polluted with obscenity, pages that may meet the eye not only of manly, but of feminine chastity.

Mansergh, displaying the bank-notes produced by his wife's criminality, has been heard to say pathetically, "a woman never need want a guinea." He was in the horrid habit of bringing her at midnight to her paramour, and of stimulating her to a more lucrative encrease of her harlotism.

An officer in the army met her for the *first* time in the house of a friend in the country, and the very *first* day became criminally acquainted with her. The next place he met her was coming out of St. Andrew's church. From this hallowed place he went home with her to her lodgings in Mecklenberg-street; conceived himself alone when he entered the drawing-room, but was accosted by a gentleman behind him, who, as Mr. Mansergh, thanked him for his civilities to his wife, and spoke in a very jocose manner of their criminal intimacy in the country—continuing—"my wife and I live on very *fashionable* terms—I never interrupt her conversations with her friends.—She never examines into my conduct, nor I into hers.—I am engaged to-day, Major, but if you dine with Mrs. Mansergh, you will make her very happy. You may as well, for if you don't she will have some other beau. —I never go between her and her Cecisbeos."—The conversation of Mansergh before his wife then became so indecent, that the officer was disgusted. Mansergh then went out, leaving the officer with his wife, who received some trinkets from him, upon her intimating that she was in the habit of receiving presents from gentlemen.—Verdict for the defendant, of course.

SHERIFF'S COURT.

Tuesday, Dec. 29.

SEDUCTION.—MACKREATH *v.* WARDELL.

This was an action brought by a father to recover a compensation in damages for the loss he had sustained in consequence of the defendant having debauched his daughter, and thereby deprived him of her services and comfort. The defendant, who is the son of a wealthy farmer in Kent, suffered judgment by default, and this day the Jury met to assess the damages. It appeared in evidence, that the plaintiff, who is a tradesman in Whitechapel, sent his daughter in the summer of 1806, to pass a month with her grandmother, who resides at Rochester. Amongst other persons the defendant visited at the house, and a mutual affection took place between the parties. The defendant about the time of Miss M.'s intended return to London, broke his mind to the grandmother, and asked her, if she thought the plaintiff would consent to his visiting his daughter in London? The old Lady replied, if his intentions were honourable, neither she nor the plaintiff would offer any obstruction to his happiness; at the same time, she represented that the plaintiff had a large family, and could give his daughter no fortune. The defendant said, his views were not mercenary; that he was actuated by an honourable love for Miss Mackreath, and he had no doubt, with the assistance his father could afford him, and his own industry, that they should overcome the frowns of fortune. The plaintiff was informed of this conversation, and relying on the grandmother's prudence, consented that the defendant should visit his daughter. After Miss M. returned to town, the defendant visited her at her father's house, they frequented the Theatre together, and the defendant was received as the destined husband of the young Lady. Miss M. was at this time little more than 16 years old, and her mother wished her to attain her seventeeth year before she married. This was considered as no great hardship by the young people, and early in the spring of the present year, Miss Mackreath again visited her grandmother, and the defendant was seldom absent from her three days at a time. They strolled into the fields together, loitered in the coolness of the shade, and frequently returned to the grandmother's after the day had closed in. In these seclusions love got the better of prudence, and the young Lady expressed her eagerness to have the marriage solemnized. The defendant was less attentive and less frequent in his visits. The young Lady grew pensive and lost her natural flow of spirits. The family was concerned at her apparent anxiety, and suspected that something more than the defendant's absence was the cause. She returned to her father's house, where her real situation could not be long a secret from a mother's investigation, and it was discovered, to the inexpressible grief of the family, that their daughter was pregnant. An explanation soon took place, the plaintiff instantly sought the seducer of his child, and insisted on his immediately marrying her. The defendant at first affected great concern for the discovery, and said, the world should never reproach him with being the betrayer of innocence. The plaintiff's apprehensions were hushed, and he returned to his house, fully satisfied that his daughter would soon be made the wife of the man to whom she had so incautiously conducted herself. The sequel however proved that he was mistaken, and from that day, neither the unhappy father or the abused daughter had seen the seducer. What aggravated the defendant's conduct still more was, that in a

letter he had sent the plaintiff, he insinuated doubts as to the chastity of his daughter before he became acquainted with her, observing, that he should pause before he formed an alliance with a person whose conduct was so extremely equivocal. This also proved the principal feature in the defence, and evidence was adduced of Miss M.'s general levity of manners, and that she had been seen in company with other young men in the absence of the defendant. It appeared, however, that there were no solid grounds for suspecting that she had been frail with any other individual, or that her misconduct was at all the result of a vicious habit; on the contrary, her conduct had at all times been chaste and virtuous.—The Jury found a Verdict for the plaintiff, with *Two Hundred Pounds damages.*

POLICE.

BOW-STREET.

On Monday evening, Mr. Decamp, of Drury-lane Theatre, went with his wife to Covent-Garden Theatre, to see the new Pantomime. Soon after the performance commenced, he observed the door of the adjoining box opened by the box-keeper, and a Gentleman entered, who remarked, that his friends were not in that box, but they were in that which Mr. Decamp was; the box-keeper then opened the door of that box, and Mr. Decamp, supposing his friends were in the front, lifted up the seats and made way for him to pass; the Gentleman immediately seated himself before Mr. Decamp, and took his place; Mr. Decamp observed to him, he presumed his friends were not in that box, and, it being full, he could not remain in his place. After some ineffectual remonstrances at this behaviour, Mr. Decamp became peremptory, and insisted upon his leaving the seat, and forced him out; a scuffle ensued, and the intruder struck Mr. Decamp a violent blow, and tore off the left side of his coat.

Donaldson, the Constable, and Rivett, the Bow-street Officer, were called to keep the peace. The parties went to Covent Garden Watch-house, where the accused gave in his name, and endeavoured to persuade the Constable of the night to take his charge against Mr Decamp; but the constable observing the violence with which Mr. Decamp had been treated, refused to take it.

On Tuesday morning, the parties attended at the Office, when the Magistrate ordered the defendant to find bail; they, however, settled the business after they had left the Magistrate, by the gentleman paying Mr. Decamp two guineas and a half for the loss of his coat.

UNION-HALL.

A detestable old monster, of the name of Rawlins, aged 63, with silver locks, was brought up by Glannon, one of the officers, from Dockhead, on the serious charge of infamously assaulting an infant child, his scholar, under the age of ten years. The story of the poor little injured innocent, with the view of the medical assistant, and other circumstances, fixed the charges so compleatly on the villain, that he was fully committed to the county gaol. Such was the indignation of the populace, that it was with difficulty the officers could preserve him from their fury, while on their route to the prison. This is the same man who was so roughly handled in the pillory at Clerkenwell Green within these last three months, for a similar offence.

ACCIDENTS, OFFENCES, &c.

BOX-LOUNGING BLACKGUARDS.—The audience at Drury-lane Theatre were on Tuesday evening disturbed by a pugilistic contest between Capt. B. of the Navy, and Mr. C. a city merchant. The cause of quarrel was A STRUMPET! Those GENTLEMEN fought several rounds before the arrival of the constables put an end to the disgraceful scene. They retired from the theatre; but in a short time Mr. C. returned to seek for the woman, whom he found in company with another GENTLEMAN. A second quarrel took place, and the audience were again distracted and alarmed. The parties, however, at length retired to a coffee-house, where another blackguard conflict ensued.—Such scenes are a disgrace to the Police of the Theatre. Constables are in constant attendance, and it is much to be wished that whenever such disturbances occur, they were compelled to do their duty, and see the offending persons taken into custody. The Managers would find their interest in such arrangement, for then the virtuous and amiable part of the community would no longer be afraid of visiting our theatres, where at present a riot is as much to be expected as the rising of the curtain.

MARRIED.

A few days ago, Mr. Hughes, of Golden-square, to Madame Parisot, the Opera dancer.

DEATHS.

Wednesday se'nnight, at her house on St. James's-parade, Bath, at the advanced age of 75, Mrs. Tobin, relict of John Tobin, Esq. of that City.

On Friday se'nnight, at his seat at Belton, in Lincolnshire, aged 64, the Right Hon. Brownlow, Lord Brownlow; he was the only son of the late Right Hon. Sir John Cust, Bart. Speaker of the House of Commons, in remuneration of whose services in that high office, he was advanced to the Peerage in 1776. His Lordship was twice married, first to Miss Drury, daughter and co-heiress to Sir Thomas Drury, of Overstone, in Northamptonshire; and sister to the late Countess of Buckinghamshire; and secondly, to Miss Bankes, of Wimbledon, by whom he has left a numerous issue. He is succeeded in his title and estates by his eldest son, the Hon. John Cust, M. P. for the Borough of Clithero.

At Plymouth, Captain Danvers, of the marines.

On Saturday se'nnight, at her house in Upper Grosvenor-street, Emma, Countess Dowager of Mount Edgecumbe; relict of the third Lord and first Earl, and mother to the present Earl. Her Ladyship was Miss Gilbert, only daughter and heir of Dr. John Gilbert, who was Archbishop of York.

At Dramara, near Dromore, Ireland, at the advanced age of 105, Mrs. Martha Adams.

Lately, at the age of 107, John Kay, of Edgbaston Mill, near Birmingham.

On the 20th ult. at Great Ealing, Francis Stephens, Esq. F. R. and A. S. and late one of the Commissioners for Victualling his Majesty's Navy, aged 68 years.

Lately, at the Archbishop's Walk, Lambeth, Miss By, eldest daughter of the late George By, Esq. acting Chief Searcher of the Port of London.

On the 15th ult. at Bristol, Joseph Thomas Waugh, B. A. Gresham Professor of Rhetoric.

Lately, Mrs. Woollen, of Sheffield Park, half-turner. She had just finished reading a letter, which contained an account of the loss of a ship, on board of which all the crew perished, excepting her own son and another boy, when, being suddenly overcome with joy and apprehension, she fell upon the floor, and instantly expired.

Lately, the Rev. Mr. Mutlowe, Rector of Broad Windsor, in Dorsetshire. The living, said to be worth 500l. per ann. is in the gift of the Bishop of Salisbury.

On Wednesday se'nnight, in the 78th year of his age, the Rev. F. Maplecott, Rector of Aynho, in the County of Northampton.

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